

In connection with the ceremony in Statuary Hall of the United States Capitol, Bob prepared a written description of the background information on the political history and the art history of the crown. Because of the significance and the interest in this important coronation symbol and historic object, Mr. Speaker, I ask that this description be placed in the RECORD.

#### THE HUNGARIAN CROWN

"The Holy Crown of Hungary" (Magyar Szent Korona) or "the Crown of St. Stephen" is the medieval Crown that for centuries was the symbol of Hungarian kingship and today remains a powerful symbol of the Hungarian nation. The Crown is depicted atop the Hungarian national crest, which was adopted as the official symbol of the Republic of Hungary.

For centuries the Hungarian Crown has been linked with St. Stephen, the first Christian king of Hungary. Medieval records report that Pope Sylvester II gave a Crown to Stephen for his coronation in 1001. Because of this tradition, the Crown has long symbolized Hungary's cultural, political, and religious links with Western Europe, although the present Crown is not the actual object given by Sylvester II.

The Crown is composed of two parts. The upper portion is composed of two cross-bands with enamel panels with Latin inscriptions. Earlier, it was believed that the Latin portion of the Crown was a remnant of the Crown given by Sylvester II. Contemporary scholars now believe that it is a reliquary or other object associated with Stephen. The lower portion is a Byzantine crown produced between 1067 and 1077 which was made for the wife of King Geza I, and it was a gift of the Byzantine emperor Michael Ducas.

These two separate portions were combined to create a crown for the coronation of one of Hungary's later kings. It was at this time that a cross was placed on top of the crossed Latin bands. Combining the two elements took place about the twelfth century. The first source calling this relic "the Holy Crown" dates from 1256, and by that date, it was in much the same form as it is today.

The Crown was last used for coronations in 1867, when Hapsburg Emperor Franz Joseph II was crowned King of Hungary, and in 1916, when his successor, Karl IV, was crowned. Karl was deposed in 1918 at the end of World War I, but the new independent State of Hungary remained a Kingdom without a king from 1918 until 1945.

Throughout its history the Crown has generally remained in Hungary, but it was frequently moved from place to place and hidden for security reasons. It was buried for four years after the national uprising of 1848-1849.

In November 1944, as the Soviet Army neared Budapest, the Crown guard moved the coronation regalia from the capital to western Hungary and Austria to protect them from damage in the fighting and to prevent their seizure by Soviet troops. On April 26, 1945, the guard buried the Crown in an oil drum at Mattsee in western Austria, and on July 25, 1945, the Crown and coronation regalia were transferred to U.S. Army officers in Augsburg, Germany. The Crown remained in American custody until January 6, 1978. Initially it was kept in the American occupation zone of Germany at a special military facility in Wiesbaden, and in the early 1950s, it was transferred to the U.S. Gold Depository at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

It was always the intention of the United States to return the Crown to Hungary, and it was designated "property of special status held in trust and safekeeping by United States authorities." Plans to return the

Crown to Hungary were put off following the communist coup in Hungary in 1947 and the intensification of the Cold War. The Hungarian uprising of 1956, which was violently suppressed by Soviet troops, also made it impossible to return the Crown. It was only two decades later that gradual but significant domestic changes in Hungary opened up the opportunity for the Crown's return.

When Jimmy Carter became President in 1977, the U.S. reassessed its policies toward the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, and determined that the U.S. should encourage relations between America and those Soviet client states which pursued international or domestic policies that differed from the Soviet Union. Since the late 1960s, Hungary's domestic economic and social policy had moved considerably away from the Soviet model and fostered market-oriented changes, which laid the foundation for Hungary's remarkable success in the post-communist period.

President Carter, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, and National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski agreed that the crown should be returned to Hungary. The Crown symbolized Hungary's links with the West and Hungarian national identity, and U.S. officials wanted to strengthen both. As a condition for the return, it was required that the Crown be placed on public display and representatives who accepted the Crown be leaders of a wide variety of Hungarian religious, social, cultural, and other groups.

The ceremony for return of the crown was held on January 6, 1978, in the rotunda of the Hungarian Parliament. The U.S. delegation was headed by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. Congressional members of that delegation included Congressman Lee Hamilton of Indiana and Fortney H. "Pete" Stark of California. Three weeks after the return of the Crown, it was put on display at the Hungarian National Museum in Budapest, and it has been on display there since that time.

Return of the Crown led to a marked improvement in U.S. relations with Hungary, and that, in turn, contributed to greater Hungarian self-confidence and encouraged economic and political reform. The changes that took place in Hungary during this period were important in preparing Hungary for the successful transition to political democracy and free market economy in the period after 1989.

#### IN HONOR OF ST. EDWARD'S BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of the St. Edward's Boys Basketball Team and its coach, Eric Flannery. St. Ed's in Lakewood, Ohio won the Division I State Boys Basketball Championship on Saturday, March 28, 1998.

Although St. Ed's was ranked number one in the finals, the Eagles still had to overcome their longtime rivals, the St. Ignatius Wildcats of Cleveland, in order to win the championship. This was the first time two Cleveland-area schools met for a boys basketball championship, and thanks to the skill of Coach Flannery and the teamwork of the players, St. Ed's won 70-61. The Eagles' strong offense and solid defense kept the Wildcats at bay throughout the game. This year's victory makes St. Ed's only the 15th school to win consecutive boys basketball championships.

My fellow colleagues, join me in saluting the 1998 Division I State Basketball Champions from Lakewood, Ohio, the St. Edward's Boys Basketball Team and its coach, Eric Flannery.

#### TRIBUTE TO STANLEY M. GRUBE

#### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I take the floor today to honor an individual whose dedication to the community and to the overall well-being of the 43rd Congressional District is unparalleled. My district has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly given of their time and talents to promote the businesses, schools, and community organizations within their various cities and throughout the district as a whole. Mr. Stanley M. Grube is one of these individuals.

Stan Grube has been extremely involved in several health care membership activities as well as various community education activities. He has served as Chairman of the Corona-Norco Unified School District Year-Round Education Task Force, in addition to currently serving as a member of the Riverside Community College Foundation and La Sierra University's Community Advisory Council for the California School Administrator Credentials Program.

Stan Grube is Chairman and member of the County of Riverside Emergency Medical Care Committee and Externa, Advisory Board Member for the University of Miami Comprehensive Drug Research Center. His community involvement extends from past positions on the Corona Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, President and member of the Board of Directors for the United Way, Corona Rotary Club and the Corona-Norco Family YMCA. In 1997, he was appointed by Governor Pete Wilson to the Economic Strategy Panel.

Stan's outstanding accomplishments make me proud to call him my friend, community member, and fellow American. I thank him for his contribution to the betterment of the community and I encourage him to keep up the good work.

#### 50 STATES COMMEMORATIVE COIN PROGRAM AMENDMENT ACT OF 1998

#### HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, last year the 50 States Commemorative Coin Program was signed into law. Beginning next year, selected designs from each of the fifty states will be minted on the reverse side of U.S. quarters dollars for circulation. Five states per year will have quarters minted with corresponding designs issued in the order of the states' ratification of the Constitution or admission into the Union.

In addition to the possibility of raising revenue for the federal treasury, attention will be focused upon the states through the diversity